

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 L-03 SSO-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /028 W

----- 012803

O R 212229Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5458

INFO DEA HQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJ: RELOCATION OF DEA REGIONAL OFFICE

REF: STATE 181121

SUMMARY: IN NOTE DATED AUGUST 20 GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA INFORMED EMBASSY IT HAD NO OBJECTION TO INSTALLATION OF DEA REGIONAL OFFICE IN CARACAS, BUT CALLED FOR OFFICIAL EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONTAINING CERTAIN STIPULATIONS. IN MEETING WITH DCM AUGUST 21, FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS DECLINED TO AUTHORIZE REGIONAL OFFICE TO BEGIN OPERATING OR OFFICIALLY BRING IN COMPLEMENT BEFORE EXCHANGE OF NOTES TAKES PLACE. EMBASSY HAS BEGUN TO NEGOTIATE AD REFERENDUM AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES BASED ON DRAFT IT PREPARED AND SUBMITTED TO MINISTRY. MINISTRY PROMISED TO GIVE TOP PRIORITY TO STUDY OF DRAFT, INCLUDING PROPOSED STRENGTH OF REGIONAL OFFICE (WHICH IT SAID SEEMED HIGH), AND TO BE READY TO COMPLETE EXCHANGE OF NOTES BY AUGUST 26. END SUMMARY.

1. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY'S INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF FIRST-PERSON NOTE SIGNED BY FOREIGN MINISTER SCHACHT DATED AND RECEIVED AUGUST 20, 1974.

2. BEGIN QUOTE: MR. AMBASSADOR: I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO YOUR NOTE NO. 409 OF JUNE 17, 1974 CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT IN CARACAS OF THE REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION.

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QUOTE: IN THIS RESPECT I AM PLEASED TO INFORM YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE INSTALLATION OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED OFFICE IN CARACAS. AT THE SAME TIME AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF FIXING THE BASES ON WHICH THIS ORGANISM WILL OPERATE, I SUGGEST TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THE CARRYING OUT OF AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES WHICH WOULD CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS:

QTE 1) FUNCTIONS OF THE REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION.

QTE 2) PRECISE NUMBER OF FUNCTIONARIES ASSIGNED TO THE ORGANISM.

QTE 3) AN INDICATION THAT THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTES AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO BE IN FORCE UNTIL ONE PARTY COMMUNICATES TO THE OTHER ITS INTENTION TO TERMINATE IT.

QTE 4) OTHER DETAILS WHICH MAY BE DISCUSSED BETWEEN FUNCTIONARIES OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

QTE I AVAIL MYSELF, ETC. END QTE.

3. IN MEETING AUGUST 21 WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL POLICY JOSE LUIS MARTINEZ AND OFFICER IN CHARGE OF VENEZUELA-U.S. BILATERAL AFFAIRS HUGO ALVAREZ PIFANO, DCM UNSUCCESSFULLY SOUGHT TO OBTAIN VERBAL ASSURANCE THAT AUGUST 20 NOTE CONSTITUTED PERMISSION FOR REGIONAL OFFICE TO BEGIN TO OPERATE AND TO BEGIN TO OFFICIALLY BRING IN KEY PEOPLE. GOV REPS PROMISED TO GIVE URGENT HANDLING TO EMBASSY DRAFT NOTE AND SAID MINISTRY SHOULD BE READY TO ACCOMPLISH EXCHANGE OF NOTES BY AUGUST 26. THEY SEEMED A BIT CONCERNED AT THE NUMBER OF PERSONS PROPOSED TO BE ASSIGNED TO THE REGIONAL OFFICE.

4. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY'S PROPOSED TEXT FOR AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES WHICH IT IS NEGOTIATING AD REFERENDUM WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY:  
BEGIN QUOTE: EXCELLENCY: I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO YOUR EXCELLENCY'S NOTE NO. PI-AI 5778 OF AUGUST 20, 1974, INFORMING ME THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE INSTALLATION IN CARACAS OF THE REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

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QUOTE: THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS SHALL GOVERN THE OPERATION IN VENEZUELA OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED REGIONAL OFFICE:

QUOTE 1) THE REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION IN CARACAS SHALL DIRECT, SUPERVISE AND ADMINISTRATIVELY SUPPORT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE DISTRICT OFFICES OF DEA THAT ARE LOCATED IN DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN SOUTH AMERICA AND PANAMA. THE DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION HITHERTO LOCATED IN THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AT CARACAS SHALL CONTINUE TO FUNCTION AS BEFORE, BUT IT SHALL BE INCORPORATED IN THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED REGIONAL OFFICE.

QUOTE 2) THE NUMBER OF PERSONS TO BE ASSIGNED TO THE REGIONAL OFFICE SHALL BE SEVEN OFFICERS AND 15 ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL STAFF PERSONNEL. THEY SHALL BE MEMBERS OF THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AT CARACAS AND SHALL RECEIVE AS SUCH THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES CORRESPONDING TO THEIR RANK AND FUNCTION.

QUOTE 3) THIS NOTE TOGETHER WITH YOUR REPLY CONCURRING IN THE FOREGOING STIPULATIONS SHALL CONSTITUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS WHICH SHALL REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL ONE PARTY COMMUNICATES TO THE OTHER ITS INTENTION TO TERMINATE IT. END QUOTE.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: INSTRUCTION BY RETURN CABLE IF ANY CHANGES ARE REQUIRED IN TEXT OF NOTE PROPOSED BY EMBASSY TO MINISTRY AS GIVEN IN PARA FOUR ABOVE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUG CONTROL, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES, DIPLOMATIC NOTES  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**TAGS:** SNAR, VE, US, DEA  
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